

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program
Professional Environmental Consulting Services
Request For Qualifications
MARCH 30, 2001**

1.0 Introduction

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program intends to assemble a “pool” of environmental contractors that may be interested in working on a Pay for Performance (PFP) contract basis. Nebraska is currently working with EPA and other States to begin using PFP-style contracts in the near future. These contracts will address remedial design and remedial cleanup at selected sites across Nebraska that are State-lead (“orphan” tank sites). Interested parties are invited to submit their Statement of Qualifications (“Statement”) to the NDEQ for evaluation. Responsible Party (RP) led sites will be addressed under a different contract process at a later date.

Approval of the qualifying proposal does not commit the contractor or NDEQ to any specific contract. The bid process and specific Scope of Work will be addressed under the actual site PFP contract(s) to be distributed at a later date. The Statement and its approval only assure that the contractor is pre-qualified and has the ability to compete for remedial action contracts on a PFP basis for State-lead sites.

2.0 Selection Process

The specific procedures used in selecting qualified contractors are outlined in Section 6, Statement Evaluation Criteria. Responding firms will submit a Statement that will be scored in accordance with Section 7, Statement Scoring. Qualified contractors will have the option to bid on PFP contracts. NDEQ will award PFP contracts only to this pre-qualified “pool” of contractors for the State-lead sites.

3.0 General Overview of the Sites

Before a site is offered to the qualified “pool” contractors for a PFP remediation bid, the NDEQ will have recently completed a detailed investigation on the area of contamination. Most of the sites will be former or present gasoline stations that have had a historical release of petroleum contamination, which is affecting the soils and groundwater in the immediate area. Petroleum contamination may include gasoline or diesel products and any of their chemicals of concern (COC).

4.0 Scope of Work

Typically the qualified contractor will be required to provide services including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- a. remediation design and installation;
- b. remediation operation and maintenance;
- c. free product recovery and disposal;
- d. remediation/removal of dissolved product in the soils and in the ground water;
- e. sampling;
- f. all other issues associated with a remediation system such as obtaining permits and complying with environmental and/or State laws.

NOTE: NDEQ intends to have the Contractor/Consultant “own” all equipment purchased to perform PFP style contracts. NDEQ will be contracting for a “clean site” only. This issue will be more specifically addressed in the actual PFP contract.

5.0 Statement Format

All Statement submittals will have the format described below. One introductory letter, five sections, and six appendices are to be prepared at the contractor’s expense and submitted to meet the requirements of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

All Statements must be printed on both sides of the paper when possible to conserve resources.

NOTE: The Statement will be considered an example of the firm’s work product. Any firm that does not provide the requested information in this format, or fails to follow specific directions, may be considered unresponsive and dropped from consideration, or given a lower score. Submission of information that was not requested will not improve a firm’s score and may be evaluated as evidence that the interested party’s analysis and presentation of information is not focused. Previously prepared brochures and qualification statements will not be considered.

5.1 Introductory Letter: A brief (no more than two pages) introductory letter will include the company’s number of years in business, number of years providing professional environmental services, references, office locations and other pertinent information.

5.2 The Five Sections:

Sect. 1 The professional qualifications of the firm, including information on licensed professional engineers and geologists, environmental knowledge of staff, and general project experience.

Sect. 2 Experience and capabilities of proposed team members and firm resources. While not a requirement of this RFQ, the Department will give preference to firms that can demonstrate the ability to efficiently commit resources in all regions of the state.

Sect. 3 Detailed written comments demonstrating an understanding of scope and type of work involved in the cleanup of petroleum contamination. As an example you should discuss technologies such as Soil Vapor Extraction in different geological settings. In addition, Air Sparging and Hi-Vac applications can be discussed.

Sect. 4 Familiarity and understanding of contamination fate in soil and groundwater. Understanding vapor transport, natural attenuation and the use of related models such as Domenico and Mod Flow.

Sect. 5 Demonstrated familiarity with applicable State and Federal rules, regulations, statutes, laws, and professional standards, in the environmental field.

5.3 Appendices are as follows:

- A. Resumes of key personnel on the team (1 page/person)
- B. Copies of applicable certifications, licenses, and/or forms, such as professional engineering/geologist certificates
- C. EPA Form 5700-49
- D. Architect, Engineer Questionnaire Standard Form 254
- E. Drug free policy
- F. Corporate or Company Insurance Policy with a minimum of:
 - 1. \$1,000,000 General Liability, Aggregate

6.0 Statement Evaluation Criteria

6.1 Professional Qualifications:

a. The firm must have on its staff at least one Nebraska Licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) with an educational background or strong experience in environmental remediation projects. The firm must also have on staff at least one Nebraska Licensed Professional Geologist (P.G.) with an educational background or strong experience in environmental remediation projects. **If a firm has applied for, or is in the process of receiving such licenses with the State of Nebraska, the firm will be considered to meet the qualification required in the Statement scoring (see section 7).** Interstate reciprocity, as determined by the appropriate State Boards, will be accepted for this RFQ. The firm will not be allowed to bid on a site package until the licensing requirements are met.

b. The firm must demonstrate remediation experience that includes remediation design, implementation, and a comparison of the effectiveness of cleanup techniques. The firm must also demonstrate acceptable QA/QC practices and capability for preparation of bids and standard construction specifications. One example of a completed environmental remediation system must be described.

6.2 Experience of the proposed team and ability to commit resources:

a. The firm shall demonstrate capabilities of proposed project team members specifically assigned to remediation projects as well as any additional resources, subcontractors, or other personnel intended to be used on remediation projects. Resumes of key personnel will be included in Appendix A.

6.3 Understanding of the Scope of Work:

a. The Statement must include an understanding of these types of sites and generalized cleanup methods used in remediation and removal of petroleum contamination.

6.4 Understanding various methods of plume contaminate analysis:

a. The statement must include a discussion and or experience with the natural forces that effect dynamic plumes. **5.2** Section 4 gives just a few of the many examples available to the consultant using today's technology.

6.5 Familiarity with environmental and State regulations:

a. The Statement must demonstrate the firm's familiarity with applicable State and Federal rules, regulations, statutes, laws and professional standards regarding all applicable environmental regulations.

7.0 Statement Scoring

Each Statement will be evaluated in accordance with the Statement Evaluation Criteria described in item **6.0** and will be scored according to the following scale:

- 6.1a---0-10 points
- 6.1b---0-10 points
- 6.2----0-20 points
- 6.3----0-25 points
- 6.4----0-20 points
- 6.5----0-15 points
- 0-100 points possible

The resulting scores will be compiled and the firms will be considered qualified or unqualified. A maximum of 100 points is possible. The six criteria used in the scoring are 6.1a & b through 6.5. If the firm scores an average of 70 points or higher from the review committee, the firm will be considered to be qualified to bid on PFP contract packages and will be placed on the DEQ's list of eligible bidders for PFP contracts.

8.0 Statement Mailing Address

All Statements should be mailed or delivered to

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Kris Young
Federal Aid Administrator
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

9.0 Statement Submittal

To be considered eligible for consideration, an original and 3 copies of the Statement must be received by 2 p.m. Central Time on Friday, July 27, 2001.

To facilitate handling, **the outside of the envelope** containing the Statement or other matters related to this request should be marked as follows:

Request for Qualifications, Pay for Performance
Attention: Kris Young
To be Opened by Addressee Only

Offerors are put on notice that Statements received after the due date and time will be considered late and will be returned to the firm.

9.1 Statement Ownership and Confidentiality

All Statements submitted in response to this RFQ will become the property of NDEQ. If the Contractor/Consultant is requesting his/her RFQ be kept confidential, please submit with the RFQ a separate cover letter stating the request in accordance with Nebraska Title 115, Chapter 4.

10.0 Miscellaneous

Please direct any questions in writing to Phil Hargis at the following address. Written questions regarding this RFQ must be received by **Friday July 6, 2001**. Replies to such questions will be provided to all of the recipients of the RFQ as soon as practicable.

Mr. Phil Hargis
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922
(402) 471-4230
RE: Request For Qualifications

11.0 RFQ Reissue

Consider carefully any present or future interest your firm may have in the PFP program the Department is implementing. The Department may not reissue this RFQ for several years following implementation of the program.

12.0 Types of sites

There is no guarantee as to the number, location, geology, type or extent of petroleum products of sites requiring corrective action. At the time of the offering the Department may consider sites that may be grouped into any of these categories. The contractors will be informed prior to bidding as to any groupings.

13.0 Brief example of PFP goals and payments

Current Level of Chemical of Concern	10,000 parts per million (ppm)
NDEQ Tier 2 target level (specified in contract)	<u>1,000 ppm</u>
Amount of reduction	9,000 ppm

Bid price from successful best qualified contractor	\$200,000.00
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Initial payment when system is operational	\$40,000.00
10% payment on reaching 25% reduction (7,750 ppm)	\$20,000.00
10% payment on reaching 50% reduction (5,500 ppm)	\$20,000.00
15% payment on reaching 75% reduction (3,250 ppm)	\$30,000.00
30% payment on reaching 100% reduction (1,000 ppm)	\$60,000.00

15% retainer payment after acceptable twelve month confirmation monitoring and removal of equipment.	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
Total Payment	\$200,000.00

NDEQ will have language in the contract addressing verification of COC reductions and PFP program exclusion penalties for not achieving levels of reduction in a reasonable period of time as proposed and agreed to by the contractor and NDEQ.

14.0 Public Meetings

All submittals will be scored if the Statement meets the requirements in 5.0. A public opening of the Statements and any public meetings are not anticipated.

15.0 RFQ TERM LENGTH

The maximum anticipated term of this Request for Qualification is three years with options for two one year extensions. NDEQ may re-advertise this RFQ at any time it is determined to be in the best interest of the State. NDEQ may also at its discretion, accept Consultant "Statements" for evaluation and inclusion during the term of this initial RFQ.